

REMARKS

At the time of filing this Reissue Application, Claims 1-33 were previously allowed and issued in the '409 Patent. In a review of the '409 Patent, it was recognized that the claims as allowed were narrow. The '409 Patent Claims 1, 18 and 21 are in error because they recite an unnecessary limitation of "a pointed tip". Therefore, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 18 and 21, and added new Claims 34-64 seeking to broaden the scope of the invention. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

CONCLUSION

Applicant requests the Examiner to enter the above amendments prior to examination of this Reissue Application. Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims are supported by the specification and add no new matter. Early and favorable acceptance of this Reissue Application is respectfully requested.

Applicant encloses a check in the amount of \$651.00 for the reissue application fee and for the additional 20 claims and 3 independent claims which have been added.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTT S L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicant


Ann C. Livingston
Reg. No. 32,479

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

CUSTOMER NO.: **31625**
512.322.2634
512.322.8325 (fax)

Date: 1/15/04